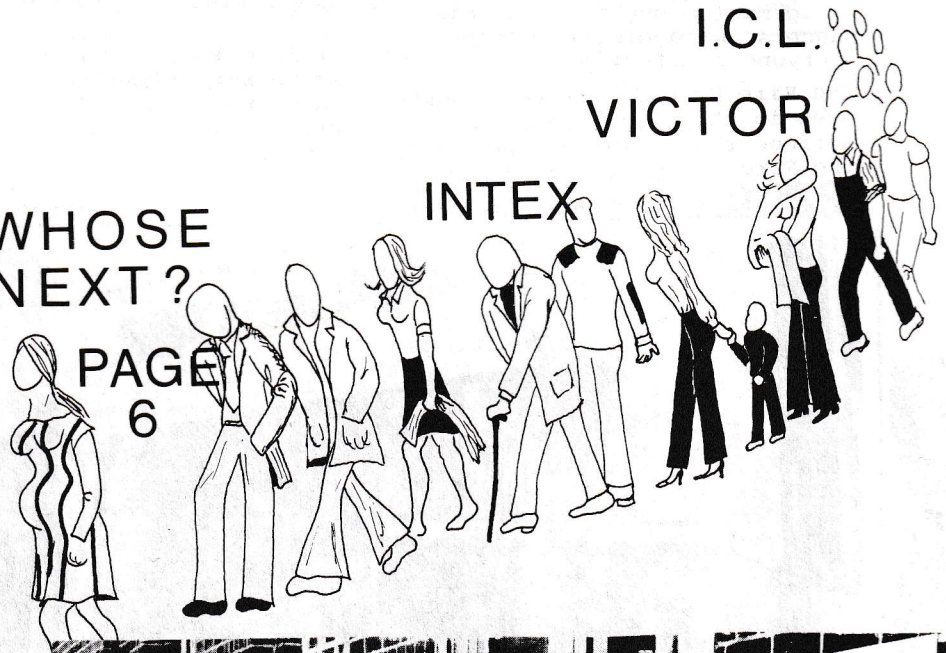
TAMESIDE EYE

GIANT KILLERS EDITION

No 14 june/july 1980 15p

TAMESIDE JOINS THE Q



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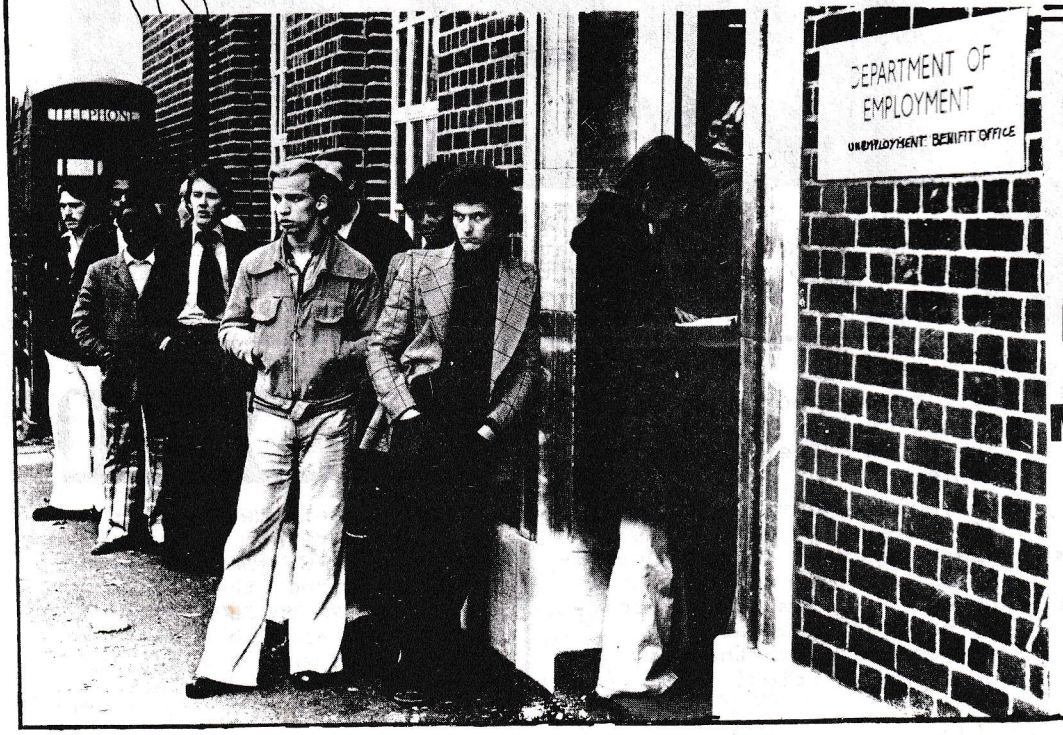
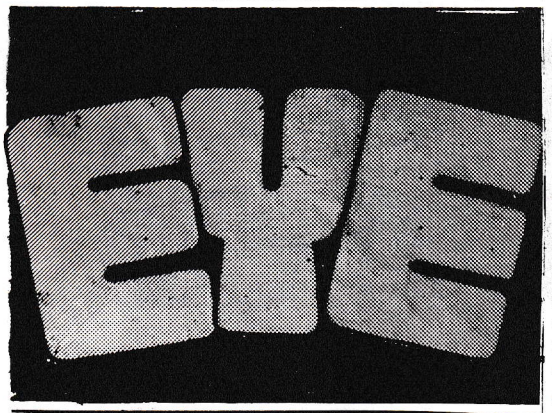


INSIDE

PIRATE RADIO

LOVE & MARRIAGE

british vita



TAMESIDE EYE

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rap

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NEWS, INFORMATION

what a sizzler

RED HOT HOT SPOT

Quaffers Night Club, Bredbury, known and respected far and wide by lovers of mediocre music and over-priced drinks, recently had a little more excitement than they usually allow their guests. But this time it was not the smouldering sensuality of the resident Disco-Dance girls, or the red hot excitement of the Cold Buffet table. No, this time dear reader, it was FIRE.

On a hot summer Wednesday night in May, as the dancers danced and the drinkers drank, at about 11-30 they began to smell smoke. In an attempt to distract attention from the bouncers, who were going into the so-called library room carrying buckets, the management brought on the Disco Dancers yet again, to occupy everyone's attention.

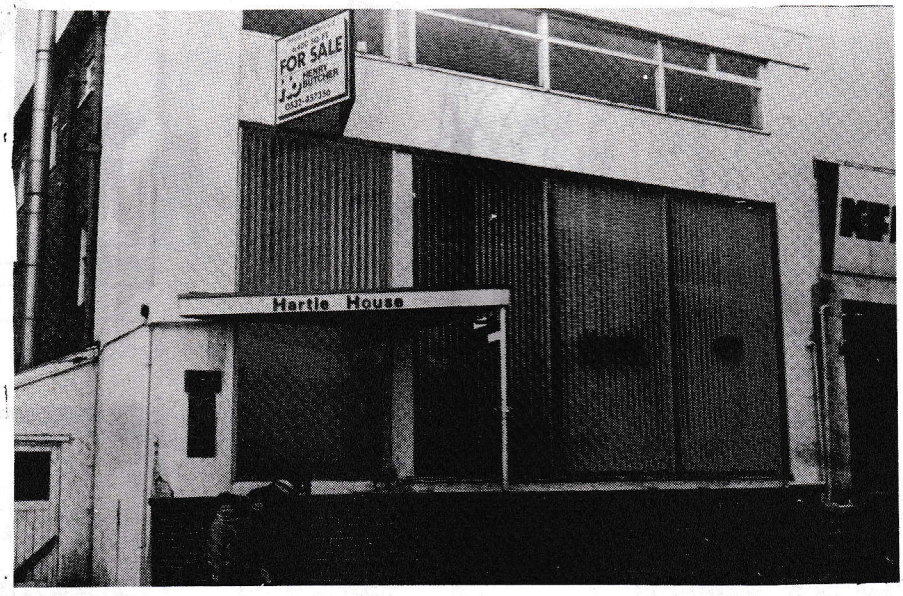
The Fire Brigade arrived , and even in the Disco people had noticed the flashing lights of the Fire Engines. Faced with a possible loss of profits from a mass exodus of punters, the jolly old D.J , announced that, although there were two Fire Tenders outside, complete with more flashing lights than he had, it was just a false alarm and everyone should just relax and carry on enjoying themselves.

A word at this time about Quaffers manager, one Dougie Flood, (Fire & Flood, get it)?

Dougie, who used to be the manager at the old Broadway Club, was seen to be arguing with a Fire Officer outside Quaffers, and blocking the doorway to prevent the Fire Officer from entering. Witnesses have stated that the Fire Chief produced a Warrant, but was told by Mr. Flood that he could not enter the premises until after closing time, as it may disturb the clientele.

It is believed that the smoke was coming from a large round open fire, with a copper canopy in the library room.

HARTLE FOR SALE IN ASHTON....GOT £100,00 TO SPARE?



How the mighty are fallen! A year ago Eye reported the demise of Hartle Machinery International. Leading Tory light, Derek Hartle, who got large amounts of ratepayers cash to do up his Mottram Hall, doesn't seem to have been shaken too badly, as he had all his other company directorships to fall back on.

spot the exclusive!

Our "Trivia of the month" Award goes without any hesitation to the news that Miss Great Britain's Sister-in-law works in Ashton-under-Lyne. Yes, fame has settled at last upon Mrs. Marice Travers, whose sister-in-law became Miss Great Britain in May.

Mrs. Travers works part-time at Age Concern Tameside, at their Old Street offices in Ashton.

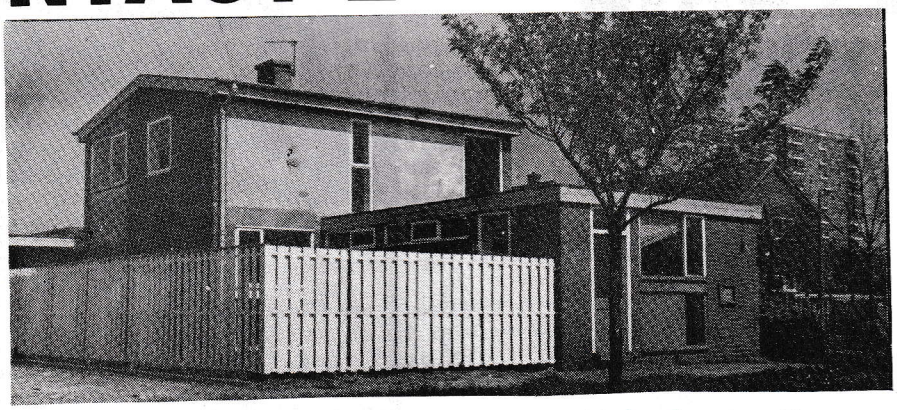
She pointed out, in an exclusive interview with EYE's crack Reporter - Flyonthewall- it is unlikely that she will become very famous. Apparently married women are not allowed to enter the Miss World Competition.

THE Advert

The day after the Reporter told us where Don Thorpe's Independent Grammar School might be sited, the Advertiser ran an "EXCLUSIVE" front page - which said exactly the same thing. COMMENT: must try harder!

GOSSIP, CONTACT EYE ON THE hot line

tel 366 0382
455 3724



THIS Des. Res. has been sold for £15,500 by Greater Mcr. Police Committee. It is an ex-Police house on Hattersley, with three bedrooms, overlooks Werneth Low and is detached. Meanwhile, just as one e.g. amongst many, one family who live on Valley Road, Hattersley, still live in a two-bedroomed house, with 2 girls, 2 boys, and the parents. This adds up to illegal over-crowding. The sale of the above Council House is unlikely to speed up their transfer to a bigger house, but perhaps you are wondering why Mcr. Housing have not moved them in any case? According to the computer, the family doesn't have enough points.

3 into 2

DUSTBIN DEFICIENCY

The good news for all Bubonic Plague lovers is that the already totally inadequate refuse collection service in Audenshaw and Droylsden is about to get worse. (Cries of "is that possible").

As a money-saving gesture the three dusbin lorries which service the area at present are, later on this year, going to be cut back to two, leaving the remaining crew to collect the mounting pile. Apart from the obvious risk to health that this measure will cause, it is going to be a real Tourist attraction this summer, strolling round the residential areas of Audenshaw and Droylsden gazing in awe at the piles of rubbish outside the neat suburban semis.

class war

How safe are teaching jobs in Tameside? A year ago, Roy Oldham became Chairman of Education - he promised to maintain 2040 teaching staff. However, EYE has documentary evidence that high-level discussions are taking place within Education about what to do with a "Teacher Surplus 1980-82". At present the discussions seem to centre on how to redeploy extra teachers into other pots of the Department, such as Youth and Community, whose workers are mainly in Youth Clubs and Community Centres. But the question teachers must be asking is why not radically reduce class sizes? Perhaps Carlisle, Thatcher's Education Minister, gave Roy Oldham some tips on staffing when he agreed to Tameside going comprehensive.

monkey business

Meanwhile the pending retirement of the Head of the Parochial Junior School in Ashton, Tom Gilyat, fascinates.....Tom, who once claimed he could "put a monkey through the 11 plus", prides himself on Parochial's Exam-Factory style high results. He could be heard recently on Radio 4's "Today" programme, extolling the vitues of the new Grammar. Perhaps he's not really going to retire after all.

clyde runs dry

Over the past two years, watchers of Shady Charities have been especially interested in Tameside Community Involvement Council and its base, Clyde House.

Recently, two groups based at Clyde House had their rents raised. These were Al-Anon and the AA, who help those affected by alcoholism, and the Tameside Talking News (for the Blind).

As a result the AA and Al-Anon have moved out and are now based at Tameside Volunteer Bureau, and Talking News are going to move out in June to cheaper premises in Dukinfield.

Also, TCIC's attempts to establish their Housing Association seem to be getting the "cold shoulder" all round. This year TCIC have received no allocation from the Housing Corporation for purchasing properties. At present their Association cannot even afford its own letterheads: letters from them go out on the notepaper of TCIC's leading light, the Denton based solicitor Michael Sainsbury.

Combine all this with no new licensed houses from Tameside; unpaid electric/gas bills at Enville Place. There may soon be little left of the old TCIC empire.

hard bench

WHAT PRICE ELECTRICITY?

A particularly brutal example of senseless sentencing took place in No.1 Court of Hyde Magistrates Court recently. The worthy J.P.'s sent a single parent (two young children) down for two months for fiddling the meter. This sentence is not consistent with previous sentences meted out by Tameside Magistrates for the same offence (or worse). At the time of writing, the parent is fortunately out on bail pending an appeal. Quite what effect the J.P's thought this sentence would have on the young children is not known, but it would certainly cost the taxpayer, so dear to their hearts, a small fortune to have the parent in the nick and two kids in care.

HOT LINE

whack

CHILD-BATTERING TO BE PHASED OUT?

Interesting to note that the new Chairman of Education, Councillor Glyn Ford, has fired the first shot in what EYE expects to be a long battle. He has gone on record as saying that they are going to survey corporal punishment in schools.

Glyn Ford was naturally vague about what might then happen. Still, the STOPP campaign continues. (The Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment)

IF ANYONE SYMPATHETIC TO STOPP WISHES TO CONTACT OTHERS OF LIKE MIND, WRITE TO TAMESIDE STOPP, C/O EYE, P.O. BOX 30, HYDE, CHESHIRE. WE WILL FORWARD THE MAIL. NO BRANCH HAS BEEN FORMED YET IN TAMESIDE - A BIG RESPONSE WILL MAKE THIS POSSIBLE.

pax

About 50 women marched in Manchester last week to show their concern for world peace. They have now formed a group "The Womens Peace Movement". Of great concern to the group is the massive build-up of missiles and the possible expansion of the Warrington air-base. They are also worried about the way that the armed-forces recruit school leavers by glamourising the life in the services, and having armed-forces recruitment talks as part of the careers service in schools.

The next meeting of the group is on Friday, May 30th at 8 p.m., at the Methodist Hall in Manchester (next to Woolworths). Women may bring children if they wish. Anyone wanting further information should contact Doreen Henshaw at 061-789-8854.

our leader

ANDERTON SHOOTS FROM THE MOUTH.

Chief Constable Anderton, our leader, has had plenty of publicity recently, concentrating mainly on the fact that the press and certain M.P's are still (God forbid!) allowed to be openly critical of him. Well, here are a few more points that did not get much of a mention.....

In Tameside, the Planning Committee have now seen Buckton Quarry for themselves and have said that they have no objections to Anderton turning it into a Rifle and Pistol Range for his gun-toting coppers.

This may or may not have prompted him to include the following comment at a recent Greater Manchester Police Committee, with reference to the Tactical Aid Group (TAG) "They may not be as fast on their feet as the SAS ...but they're not bad". In fact the TAG have been used on no less than 43 Manchester demonstrations in the past year, and on three occasions were "loaned" to other forces elsewhere in the country.

Postscript: County Councillor John Kershaw, who lost the last election for the Tories against Tom Pendry M.P., turned up late to this Police Committee, and actually missed a few minutes of Anderton's main speech. No doubt he will have something docked from his attendance allowance.

free school

The press has given plenty of space recently to comprehensive education vs Grammar. Yet there are many other untried alternatives to both. Hattersley's recent visitors from Denmark come from a state-funded Free School. There, 65 young people (14-17) and 13 teachers live together in a boarding school in Nuborg. They share all the work of the school; there are no cooks, cleaners, caretakers or maintenance staff. The whole school is over for 10 days, split into 5 groups spread around the country.

VISITORS FROM DENMARK ON HATTERSLEY

TAMESIDE TRADES COUNCIL

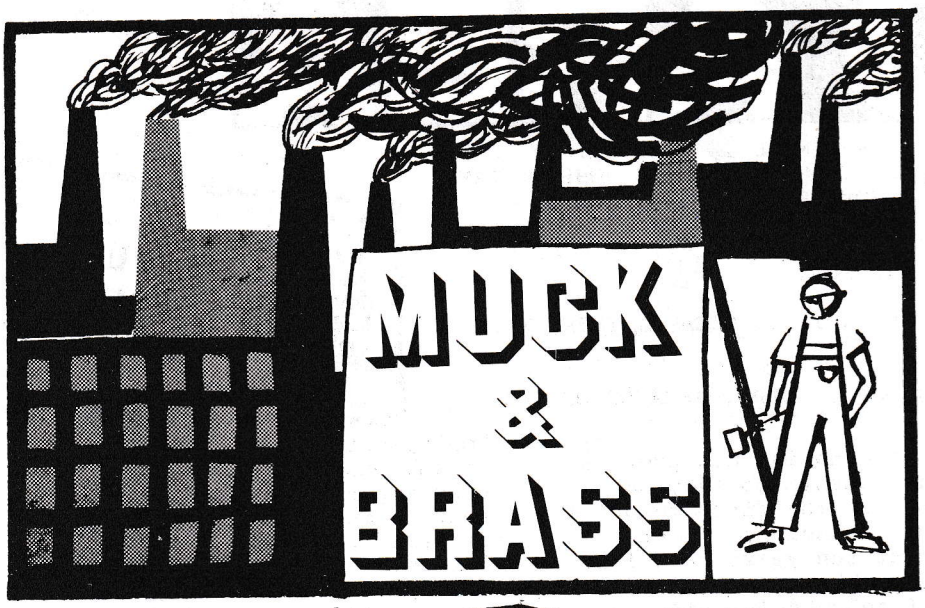
The TUC have kicked Tameside Trades Council out, but already support for our T.C., is coming in from many union branches and other T.C.'s.

EYE has received a copy of the letter signed by Len Murray instructing "General Secretaries of all affiliated organisations" to withdraw from the T.C. It reads like a Stalinist tract, complaining that the T.C. has failed to accept that the TUC should vet "the format, agenda and speakers for any Conference on Ireland".

Brother Colin Barnett, (who in his capacity as Chairman of the Area Manpower Services Commission was no doubt upset that our T.C. refused to nominate a delegate to their District Committee), is Secretary of the North West TUC. He has already speeded up the back-stabbing process by approaching Albert Hatton (AUEW - Oldham Batteries), George Bardsley (NATFHE - Tameside College), and Frank Cropper (ASTMS - Ashton General Branch), about setting up a new Trades Council.

CONFERENCE

But the Conference on Ireland is still going to take place. It is at Manchester Poly Students Union on Sat. 7th June 1980, 10-30 to 4 p.m. Details from Dave Hallsworth, 186 Kings Road, Ashton-u-Lyne.



ROUND TUC Day of Action -UP

YOU COULD BE FORGIVEN FOR THINKING THAT NOTHING HAPPENED IN TAMESIDE ON THE TUC's BADLY-ORGANISED DAY OF INACTION. HOWEVER, EYE HAS A FEW ITEMS OF INTEREST TO REPORT.....

Some workplaces closed down completely. For example, NUPE staff on Hattersley shut the Rents Office for the whole day. At British Vita (Stalybridge Rubber), in Ashton, production was at a standstill all day, thanks in part to the AUEW Engineers' lead. Many members of the newly-formed Tameside Branch of the CYSA (a Union for Youth and Community Workers affiliated to the NUT) were on the demonstration in Manchester. And this was despite threats from on high that disciplinary action might be taken.

But, unfortunately, some of the TUC's lack of leadership seemed to infect Tameside's Day. A group of NUPE shop stewards gathered outside Ashton General Hospital, under the (wrong) impression that there was to be a march setting off from there.

TUC CAMPAIGN FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ADVANCE

No teachers turned out with the backing of their union. In fact, a large meeting (about 250 people, compared with the usual 40) of NUT teachers assembled on May 8th at Egerton Park School, and overwhelmingly voted in favour of their executive's "no action" proposal. The whole meeting was over in about 15 minutes.

Derek Turner, Head of Hollingworth Primary School, seconded the "no action" idea by threatening that Heads might be "forced" to tell parents the names of any teacher absent, to explain why their kids classes were not held.

The NUT President, Jack Howarth, displayed a (deliberate?) lack of knowledge of committee and meeting procedures throughout this whole farce. At the Committee held before the mass meeting, the vote was 9-8 in favour of pushing for a half day strike. Howarth, who is Head of Maths at Egerton Park, declared the vote was 8-8, cast his deciding vote against the strike, and refused a re-count when challenged.

STOP THE SO-CALLED 'EMPLOYMENT' BILL

Finally, no prizes for guessing who dominated the press, radio and TV on the North West TUC side. Yes, Secretary Barnett spent most of the Manchester March offering comment to the local radio cars parked outside his Ashton office.

DON'T CRY FOR Vita

Despite the problems for the foam making industry, caused by the horrific Woolworth's fire, British Vita have just announced large profits and even bigger dividends. Vita, who have a large factory in Ashton, are based in Middleton. Their recorded profits for 1979 are £8.9 million - an increase of just under £2.1 million on the year before. But Vita shareholders will be getting 5 pence dividend per share - an increase of more than 100% on 1978! Given that the firm's turnover increased less than 50% in the same time, Vita employees might do well to find out the firm's investment plans (if any!).
In fact, any expansion which does take place this year is unlikely to be in Ashton.

Most of Vita's expansion plans focus OVERSEAS. In addition they have now forecast zero growth for 1980, which has already been borne out by the redundancies of some of the firm's Blue Dart Drivers. (Blue Dart is their transport section). Some of the Middleton work-force are now on a reduced working week (shades of previous Tory administration?) and rumours of permanent cut-backs are going round.

BODDIES GO UP NICELY

If you like Boddingtons Beer for its independent Strangeways flavour, you may like to know what else you are paying for every time you buy one of their pints.

For the tenth year in a row, their Chairman, Ewart A. Boddington, has announced record profits of just over £4 million, up 29½% on 1978, with dividends on shares going up by a similar amount.

Ewart commented that trade was up "despite higher unemployment".

LEX

Following our last Issue's comments on the high profits of the motor group Lex, they have announced the closure of their Ashton Car Show-rooms.

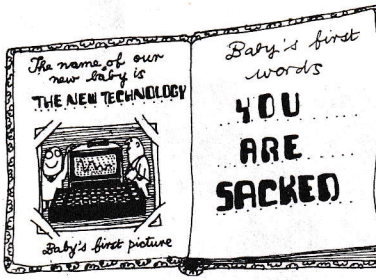
NO GO AREA

IF YOU USED TO WORK AT ICL IN DUKINFIELD, RAY MILL IN STALYBRIDGE OR LANCASTER CARPETS IN DENTON, YOU'LL KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING TO JOBS IN TAMESIDE. IF YOU ARE STILL IN WORK HERE IS SOME BAD NEWS:-

* 5,000 PEOPLE IN TAMESIDE ARE OUT OF WORK NOW.

* 8,500 MEN AND WOMEN COULD BE UNEMPLOYED IN 1986, BECAUSE THERE WILL BE MORE SCHOOL LEAVERS IN THE 1980's.

* UP TO 10,000 MORE PEOPLE COULD BE PUT OUT OF WORK, BECAUSE OF THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW TECHNOLOGY.



WHOSE TURN IS IT NEXT?

TEXTILES

You may once have worked at Intex Yarns, Victor Mill, Ray Mill, Ashton Bros Shirting, or be about to loose your job at B.W. Wood. The fortune for the textile industry hass looked bleak for a long time but Tameside Council's study on the effects of microelectronics on jobs says that 3,000 more jobs may be lost by 1990. The risk areas are the programmable sewing machine in the clothing industry, and the introduction of microelectronic control of yarn production.

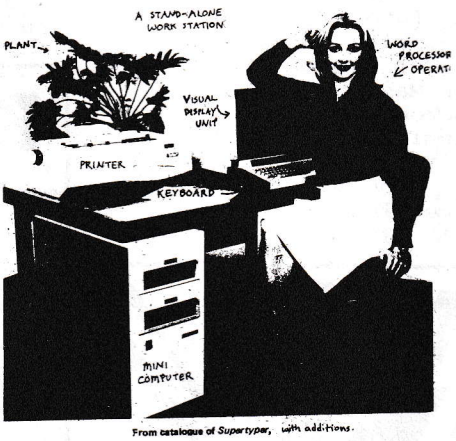
ENGINEERING

There are over 150 mechanical engineering firms in Tameside. Many of these are small and do subcontracting for larger firms. So they are vulnerable to the cut backs of other firms. Tameside firms did work for Stone Platts in Oldham, which has closed and several local companies do work for the car industry which is shrinking. The larger firms are not doing so well. IMI Range in Stalybridge is on short time. The jobs being lost in engineering and the small number of apprentices being taken on are a result of economic recession. ICL Dukinfield is an exception. 900 jobs will be lost there, and if the new technology hits a computer firm then the effects are bound to filter through to other types of engineering in the next few years.

OFFICE

Banks, insurance companies and local government employ many Tameside workers, most of these jobs are outside the Borough , in large Manchester offices.

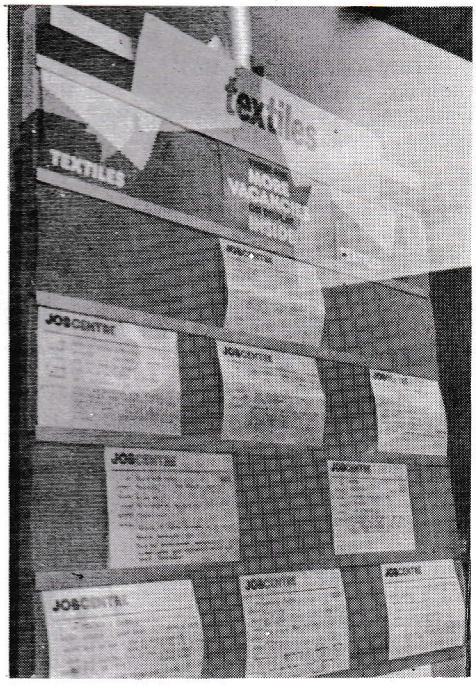
Banks are making big profits at the moment and they may be some of the first to bring in new technology. Over the next ten years jobs like filing, photocopying, and a lot of telephoning will be taken over by computers. These changes will affect a lot of women, possibly 1500 in Tameside. It's bad news all round because the women who don't lose their jobs will find that their work becomess more boring and repetitive. Typists and secretaries will find themselves using word processors This clever machine can put names and addresses on standardised letters, make connections easy and it can also monitor how much work the typist does. Working at a visual display unit (which will replace the typewriter) can cause eye strain.



From catalogue of *Supertyper*, with additions.

WHAT IS BEING DONE?

The Government. Despite opposition from (Labour) M.P.'s and Councillors, the Government have withdrawn a major source of industrial grant aid from Tameside. As a result, the area no longer has "assisted area" status. This has seen the end of all Manpower Services STEP schemes, which were providing work for the long-term unemployed. Also the Government has cut back on Temporary Employment Subsidy (TES). In the past TES has been very important to the textile industry, which is still the Borough's largest manufacturing sector. The final twist must surely be the Cuts in the dole (no longer inflation proof), earnings related supplement and social security.



Perhaps this will soon be empty ?

Tameside Council. They have been the first Council in the country to pay academics from Manchester University to produce a report on the effects of new technology in jobs. This report has received much attention from the Press, T.V. and Radio, and leading Councillors and Senior Officials are at pains to show how aware they are of the problems. They intend setting up a Strategy Committee, and other measures promised include computer awareness classes in our schools. However, good intentions alone will not produce new jobs, or change people's attitudes.

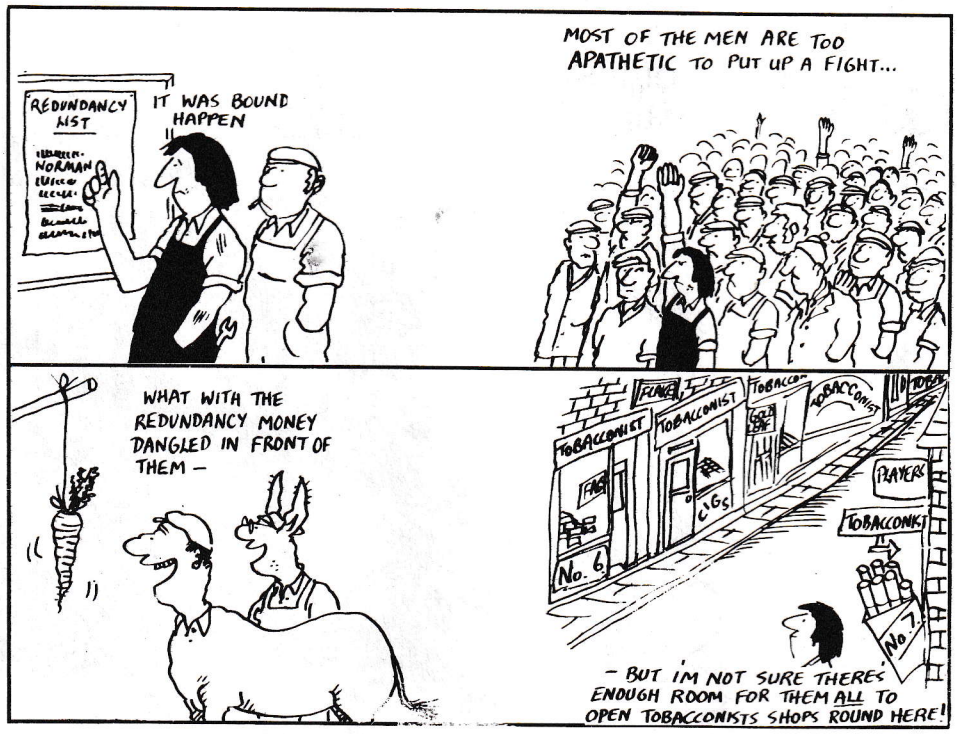
Last year the Head of Longdendale Comprehensive School attempted to get his teaching staff interested in new technology and computers, and ran a seminar for them. The response from many teachers was not encouraging.

Much of Tameside's industrial strategy is based on promoting "small businesses".

Yet recent studies, which have been based at Manchester University, and funded directly by the Department of Industry have demonstrated that small firms in the North West are likely to be employing fewer people by the end of the decade!!

Trade Unions. The fight against redundancies and closures has seen a widely different response in our area. On the one hand Adamson Containers were on strike for 22 weeks and won, whilst, on the other hand, the Park Road Mill closure saw ICL workers accepting large Union-negotiated cash sums in return for the loss of 900 jobs.

A badly organised Day of Action and the disaffiliation of Tameside Trades Union Council from the TUC, do not bode well for a united campaign against the rising unemployment in the Borough.


REDUNDANCY LIST
NORMAN
IT WAS BOUND HAPPEN
MOST OF THE MEN ARE TOO APATHETIC TO PUT UP A FIGHT...
WHAT WITH THE REDUNDANCY MONEY DANGLED IN FRONT OF THEM -
TOBACCONIST
FAGS
CIGS
PLAYER
No. 6
No. 7
- BUT IM NOT SURE THERE'S ENOUGH ROOM FOR THEM ALL TO OPEN TOBACCONISTS SHOPS ROUND HERE!

Business. The CBI and the local Chamber of Commerce have not - to date - produced any "plan" for Tameside. Instead they are more interested in so-called "enterprise zones", which - if they are established - would bring tax advantages and no planning restrictions. And, as might be expected, they are constantly calling for lower profits taxation and other "incentives" from government.

Tradition Broken. Traditionally, Tameside has had lower unemployment than elsewhere in the North West. The current economic climate, and too large a share of declining industry, is about to be combined with the effects of new technology, to produce a very explosive mix indeed. It seems Tameside is about to lengthen the dole queues considerably, and the tradition will be broken.

WOMEN TODAY CONFERENCE

Over 50 women ranging from teenagers to grandmothers attended a conference on the theme 'Women today and tomorrow' on Sunday 21st April. The day was organised by Tameside Youth and Community Dept. at Stalybridge teachers centre. Originally the day was planned as a training day for women working with young people. Then, as Betty Maas, organiser of the conference pointed out, they realised that most women 'work' with young people at some time in their life, so a general invitation was given for all women to attend.

The women attending the conference were of all ages and backgrounds.

For most of the day the conference split up into small groups each of which had a particular theme.

A creche was held for about 25 children at Copley Community centre by three willing males. Coffee on tap and excellent buffet lunch completed the day.

For many women a whole day without washing up, cooking or child care were attractions in themselves quite apart from the interesting discussions.

For the future the organisers hope that the conference will only be the beginning of a series of events.

black maria

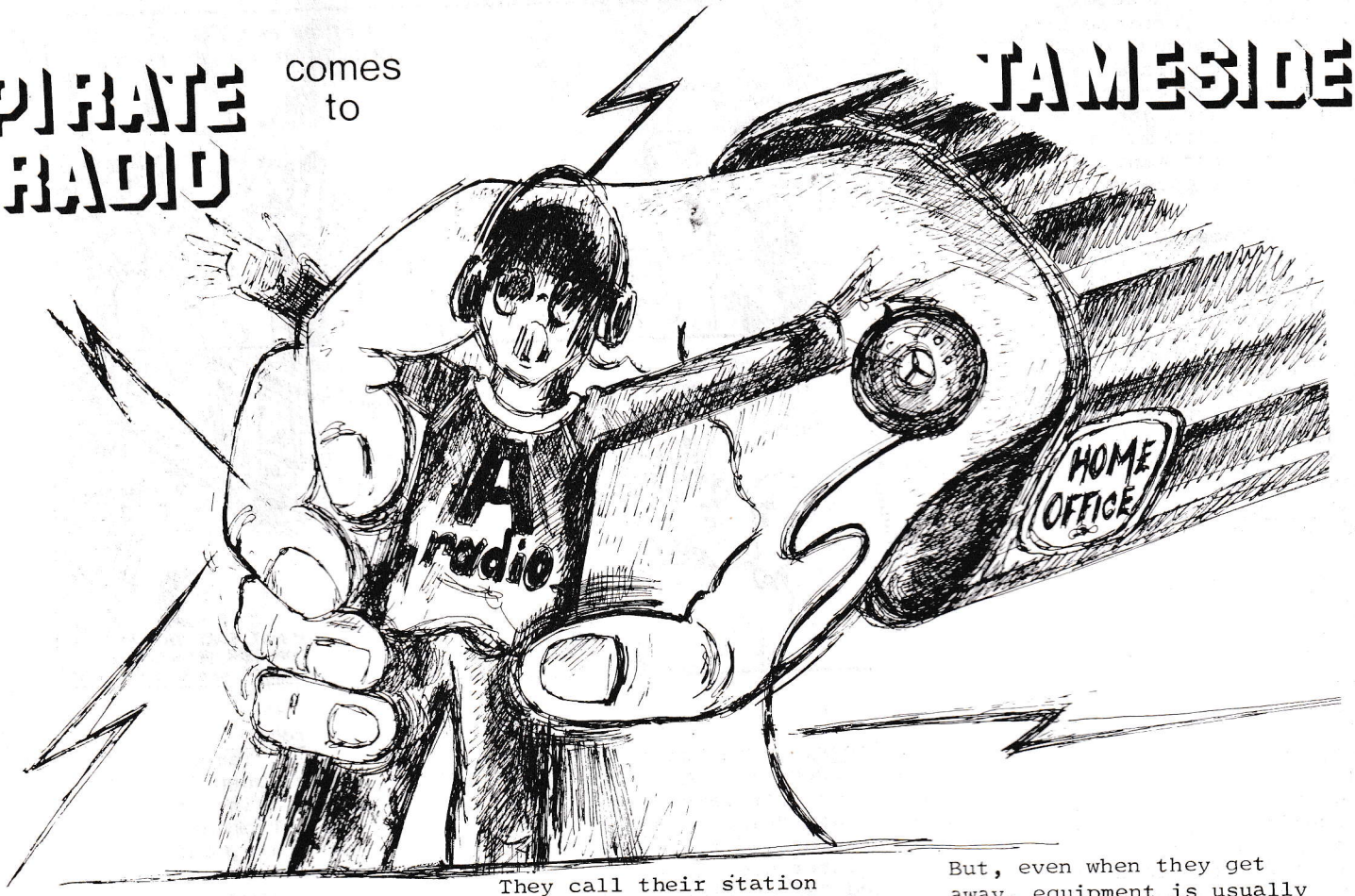
alex warner

Blue light flashes in a
hypno trance
sirenshriek out in advance
big blue van
they come they come to getya
for a long long stretcher
dontcha know they select ya
for a trip inside
gonna get a ride
see the other side to life
advertisements dont tell ya
no salesman gonna sell ya
where the shock is gonna
shell ya
black maria

Black-ack-ack Maria
Molotov cocktail cabaret
riot squad bouncers should
I say
pep step short of the water
cannon
strategic plannin
riot shield banter
C-H-A-R-G-E and chanter
bloodstained
battle framed
estranged
black-ack-ack Maria

She an arresting lady
looks a trifle shady
they come they come
to take you away
hope you have elongated stay
rehearsing porridge part III
dontcha know you're the star
fragmented frame-up
way behind bars
another schizophrenic planet
rought 'n' ready mars
flanked by uniformed czars
iron-on scars
up before the town crier
with black-ack-ack Maria.

PIRATE RADIO comes to TAMESIDE



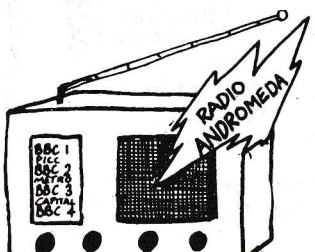
WOULD YOU RISK IMPRISONMENT FOR A PRINCIPLE?

THREE MEN FROM TAMESIDE HAVE BEEN DOING JUST THAT FOR OVER A YEAR.....

They first broke the law on January 23rd 1979.
They repeated the offence several times that winter.
The following summer they did it again.
And in the autumn.

This year they've broken the same law three times.
And soon they intend to break it regularly every week.
The law in question is the 1967 Marine Broadcasting (offences) Act. And what you have to do to break it is take a cheap radio transmitter up to the top of a hill in the Pennines and broadcast music and information to anyone in the area who wants to listen.

In other words those three Tameside men (who wish -for obvious reasons- to remain anonymous) are running an illegal Pirate Radio Station.



They call their station ANDROMEDA. They run it in their spare time, using a £20 transmitter they made themselves. They all have full time jobs.
And they expect to be arrested soon.
And there is no doubt that they WILL be arrested.
Their broadcasts will have been picked up already by the governments automatic tracking station at Swinton.
Once they start making regular transmissions Home Office investigators will set out in two cars jam packed with mobile tracking equipment to get a fix on the broadcast. That fix will be accurate to within one hundred yds.
Then the Home Office boys will watch them for a week or two. Hiding in bushes etc., trying to work out the stations routine.

Then they will move in, surround the transmitting site with a dozen or so men, and attempt to catch them red-handed

nab

But, unless the officials can prove that the men they nab were actually making a broadcast at the time, no prosecution is possible. So, as the government men move in, the eagle eyed pirates will be hurridly moving out. Humping their equipment away, over walls and hedges, burying what they can't carry.

But, even when they get away, equipment is usually left behind, which is why most land-based pirates don't broadcast live. Programmes are taped at home on the expensive studio equipment, leaving only the relatively cheap transmitter to be confiscated during raids.
If the pirates are caught they will end up in a Tameside magistrates court. Then, if they are lucky they will be fined, if unlucky, imprisoned.
There's no money in this kind of land-based pirate radio station. So why do they do it?

fun

According to an ANDROMEDA spokesman it's partly for the sheer fun of running a radio station. Partly because they like playing cops and robbers with the Home Office head hunters But mainly because they believe in free speech. They want ANDROMEDA to be a genuine community radio station. They believe there should be many more stations like ANDROMEDA.

Ordinary people should have the right to broadcast. They say this kind of radio would 'reduce racial tension, cut down violence, and vandalism, and make old people less lonely.' Under the existing law such stations can not be

set up. Licenses are difficult to get, and transmitters have to be rented, expensively, from the IBA (Independant Broadcasting Authority). Only big companies or consortiums can afford to buy their way into legal radio and their main aim is profit.
As a result ANDROMEDA is sceptical about the claims of stations like RADIO PICCADILLY to represent the community. The spokesperson commented cynically -

'Piccadilly's contract said they were going to broadcast to Jews, Poles, West Indians, West Africans, East Africans Asians and Pakistanis - what they didn't say was that they were going to broadcast pop music to them all.'

ANDROMEDA is not the first pirate radio station to broadcast to Tameside. Most local 'pirate' transmissions in the past ten years have come from 'amateurs' mucking around with a transmitter in their back bedrooms. But there have been several more organised - and bizarre- pirates.

There was RADIO TRIUMPH. This unusual radio station made regular transmissions from the back of an old Triumph (geddit?) car. The one-man operation evaded arrest for about three months by broadcasting on the border between two regions of the Radio Regulation Dept. For some time the two sets of officials wrangled over who was responsible for hunting down the canny pirate's broadcasts. Meanwhile RADIO TRIUMPH remained on the air.

The longest lasting pirate has been RADIO RAG. This station broadcasts once a year from Manchester during rag week. For ten years the students have evaded Home Office detection.

cheek

But, the cheekiest local pirate was RADIO AQUARIUS. It kept up weekly broadcasts to Tameside and Sth Manchester for nearly three years from 1972-'75. Its low power transmissions were picked up in Stoke and Sheffield. It eventually cost the Home Office £10,000 to close down. There were raids and arrests, and hundreds of pounds were paid in fines. But, Aquarius kept on broadcasting. It got to know the names of the officers hunting them, turned them into characters in the stations radio jungles, took photographs of the Govt. photographers who were supposed to be photographing them.

sinister

But at the end events took a more sinister turn . Mail addressed to Aquarius stopped arriving. They discovered that it was being returned stamped 'address not known' When they tackled the GPO about it officials claimed to know nothing about it.

The court case which finally closed Aquarius down made a lot of an item the station had done on South Africa just prior to the last raid.

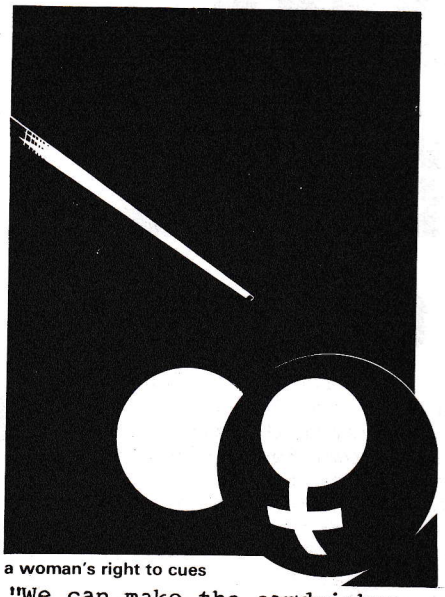
the law

WARNING - IF YOU READ THIS ARTICLE YOU ARE BREAKING THE LAW!

The Marine Broadcasting offences Act was enacted in order to stamp out the enormously successful ship-based pirates stations of the 1960's. The Act was unusually repressive. Clasue 5 not only made pirate broadcasting illegal, but also advertising the station, listening to it, and writing about it. It is this law which technically makes not only this article illegal, but your reading it illegal too.
In 1976 a man was given a two month suspended sentence and ordered to pay £500 costs for wearing a Radio Caroline badge.
The Govt. argues that pirates are interfering with emergency services.

It claims there isn't enough room on the existing wave bands for them.
Free-radio supporters admit that some pirates do interfere with existing users of the air.
But, argue that this can easily be regulated. They claim that there is plenty of free air-space, and suggest that the real reason why the Govt. objects to easier access to the air, is political. They say the Govt. does not want the free speech that free radio implies. The present system ensures that only the rich and established can afford to broadcast. This ensures moderate radio opinion. If anyone was allowed to broadcast the Govt. would have less control over what is said on the air. It is this, they say, that explains why the 1967 Act is so harsh.

SNOOKER FOR WOMEN



a woman's right to cues

"We can make the sandwiches and play Bingo but can't vote or play Snooker". This is the position for women in most of the 400 "working mens" clubs affiliated to the club and Institute Union (C.I.U.)

In the Trades Club in Ashton women can only hold associate membership. This allows them to go into the club unaccompanied but they can't sign non-members in, can't play Snooker and can't vote.

E.R.I.C.C.A

An organisation called E.R.I.C.C.A. (Equal Rights in Clubs Campaign for Action) has been formed to fight this discrimination against women. It started in 1979 when a woman in Wakefield, Sheila Capstick, was banned from playing snooker at a working mens club.

E.R.I.C.C.A. claims to achieve full membership rights for women and to change the names of the various clubs from "working mens" to "workers" clubs.

In April E.R.I.C.C.A., lobbied the Annual General meeting of the CIU in Blackpool. They weren't very successful - the CIU didn't even discuss women's membership.

Madge Harwood, the Lancashire organiser says that it did give them some good publicity and many more people have expressed support - including many men.

If you want to join ERICCA contact Madge Harwood, 4 Mather Road, Eccles.

love and marriage or justice in divorce

Since the law was changed in 1969 divorce has become much easier and more common. It is now based on the breakdown of marriage, so that legally there is no longer a 'guilty' partner, Many problems are unsolved though, and EYE was approached by the 'Campaign for Justice in Divorce' asking for publicity,

servant

A lot of the bitterness that comes out when a couple divorce stems from the set up of marriage.

A woman who marries takes on the job of servant in the home in return for financial support from her husband for herself and children. Married women are not recognised as people in their own right by the taxman or by Social Security. Once she has children it is very difficult for a women to earn a living. State day nurseries have places for only six in every 1,000 under fives. School hours and holidays still cause problems when the children get older.

mr right

Many girls, when they leave school see marriage as their future, and work to fill in time until they meet 'Mr.Right'. marriage holds out the promise of love, sexual fulfillment and a companion for life.

If things don't work out as expected they often take the failure of the marriage personally and blame themselves or their husbands instead of the pressureof marriage itself.

Men feel that supporting a family forces them to stay in jobs they don't like, and to work overtime to keep the house going and children clothed and fed.

Maintenance payments to an ex-wife continue until she dies or remarries.

The Campaign for Justice in Divorce argues that through this system the state evades its own responsibility and loads it onto ex-husbands. The campaign would have pressing for maintenance payments to last either until thewife was capable of earning her own living or a maximum of five years. 40-75% or maintenance orders at any one time are in arrears.

prison

Men can be imprisoned for failing to pay maintenance. The campaign excuses this apparent mass irresponsibility by saying that men don't pay because they can't affort to, or because they resent maintaining an ex wife who they blame for the breakdown of their marriage. There are quotes from 2nd wives in the campaign's pamphlets who are bitter about having to keep working because of the maintenance their husbands pay, and who cannot afford to have children of their own.

custody

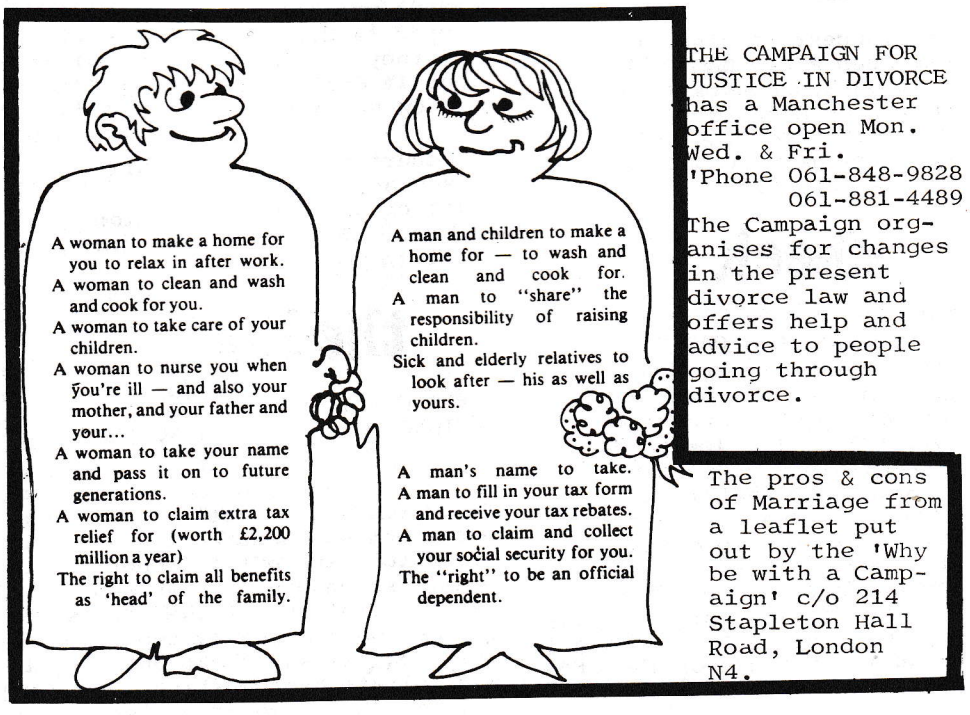
As things stand, fathers can only get custody of their children if their ex-wives agree, or if they can prove that their ex-wives are incapable of being a good mother. Having looked after the child for years does not in itself guarantee that the father will be granted custody in court. Restriction of access to children by the custodial parent is a common problem.

legal advice

Money, or the lack of it, can affect the settlement made in divorce cases. Nearly 80% of divorce actions are brought by women. It is expensive for men to defend the case, especially as legal aid is now only a loan for a house owner, as the settlement of so-called ancillary matters, property and maintenance can take 2 - 5 years. The Campaign for Justice in Divorce will give legal advice to help people defend themselves in court.

abse

When I read that Leo Abse M.P. who is bitterly opposed to abortion, and who is pressing for paternal rights over illegitimate children, was backing the Campaign for Justice in Divorce, my feminist hackles rose. I feel that any lessening of the financial burden on divorced men will increase the hardship of divorced women.


A woman to make a home for you to relax in after work.
A woman to clean and wash and cook for you.
A woman to take care of your children.
A woman to nurse you when you're ill — and also your mother, and your father and your...
A woman to take your name and pass it on to future generations.
A woman to claim extra tax relief for (worth £2,200 million a year)
The right to claim all benefits as 'head' of the family.
A man and children to make a home for — to wash and clean and cook for.
A man to "share" the responsibility of raising children.
Sick and elderly relatives to look after — his as well as yours.
A man's name to take.
A man to fill in your tax form and receive your tax rebates.
A man to claim and collect your social security for you.
The "right" to be an official dependent.

THE CAMPAIGN FOR JUSTICE IN DIVORCE has a Manchester office open Mon. Wed. & Fri. 'Phone 061-848-9828 061-881-4489 The Campaign organises for changes in the present divorce law and offers help and advice to people going through divorce.

The pros & cons of Marriage from a leaflet put out by the 'Why be with a Campaign' c/o 214 Stapleton Hall Road, London N4.

jam today

Town Hall non-manual workers were the latest group to receive a "comparability" pay award in April. Clerks, Typists, Telephonists received £5 a week and their bosses, the 'Principal Officers' - £20 a week. The claim was finally settled at National negotiations after several Councils, including Tameside, had said that they would break ranks with the national employers organisation and reach local settlements. This occurred after NALGO had instructed members not to send out rate bills. However, we know of no other Council which, in its keeness to settle the dispute locally, included employees not covered by the national claim.

Councils' Chief Executives had their own arbitration award which gave them 9% in July 1979 and a further 8% in January 1980. They were not covered by the comparability claim. However, our magnanimous Councillors have decided that their No.1 employee is worth more than that.

It was reported to the April Council meeting that Labour leaders Newton, Travis and Foster had decided that Chief Executive Spiers would receive the biggest Easter Egg - a 'local' comparability rise of 18.5% - taking him to £20,373 a year, passing such notables as High Court Judges. Spiers pay has now risen by 35% in 9 months.

Spiers Easter pay windfall will cost an extra £3,000 a year. The same Council meeting decided to cut £2,800 off provision of newspapers and periodicals in libraries.

cuts cuts cuts

£30,000 is to be 'saved' by cutting the variety of menus for school meals.

£1,100,000 by not filling vacant jobs unless a case for exemption can be made to a management Manpower Control Group. In addition, 250 full time jobs are to be permanently axed before October 1981.

The election on May 1st put Labour even more firmly in control of the Council. 46 seats to the Tories 10 and Liberals 1. However, little evidence emerges of sweeping policy changes in a Socialist direction. It seems that the Labour Leaders have abdicated power in favour of the highly paid Chief Officers and we can be sure of an even more dazzling array of cuts in our public services and big pay rises for the men doing the cutting in the months to come.

pat on the back

This Labour party hand-out was circulated in Ashton's West End during the recent May election. Read it. It seems to be having a fair old go at the sitting Councillor doesn't it? But which party do you think he belongs to? Tory? wrong! Liberal? Wrong again. In fact the inneffective councillor in question was aged Labour Stalwart Pat McEnaney.

TAMESIDE COUNCIL ELECTIONS

THURSDAY, 1st MAY, 1980

ST. PETER'S WARD

How much does your retiring Councillor **REALLY** care about **YOU AND YOUR FAMILY?**

NOT VERY MUCH!

Since he was last elected he has **CEASED** to be effective as a Councillor. The **FACTS** about his attendances at meetings **OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS ARE:-**

Tameside Labour Group—58%
Environmental Health Committee—45%
Recreation Committee—48%
Land Committee—**NEVER ATTENDED ANY MEETINGS**

Pat has been Labour party member for 40 years and the local councillor for a long time. The hand-out doesn't mention this. Why? Because it doesn't reflect very well on the party that re-elected Mac to stand for St. Peter's ward four years ago does it? You see the fact is that poor old Pat has been ineffective as a Councillor for years and years and years - as any St. Peter's ward resident will tell you. So why didn't they kick him out earlier? Well, partly because St. Peter's ward is solid Labour and there was never any incentive to do it. Partly because Pat is well in with Labours catholic maffia (he used to sit on the councils ill-fated film censorship group), and partly because other time-servers feared that if Pat went, they might too!

FOOTNOTE: Evidence of Pat's growing senility is provided by a letter he wrote last Jan. to Labour party HQ in London. In it Pat complained about a 'Marxist influence' in the Tameside Labour party. Unfortunately the HQ hack wrote back to Pat informing him that the 'Marxist' in question had resigned from the party some time previously. Ah well....

black mail

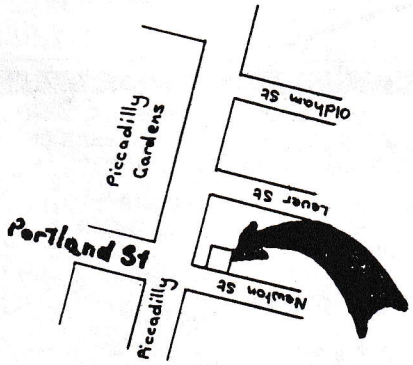
There is this ridiculous tale going round that a leading Lab. Cllr. has a vendetta against the Post Office...

A £400 saving in the Planning Dept. is to be made by having highly-paid Planning Officers post Planning Application Notices through relevant doors, instead of letting the GPO do the job.

Postal worker, Chairman of Planning, Cllr. Jack Pettit was unable to comment due to his attendance at a Postal Workers Conference.

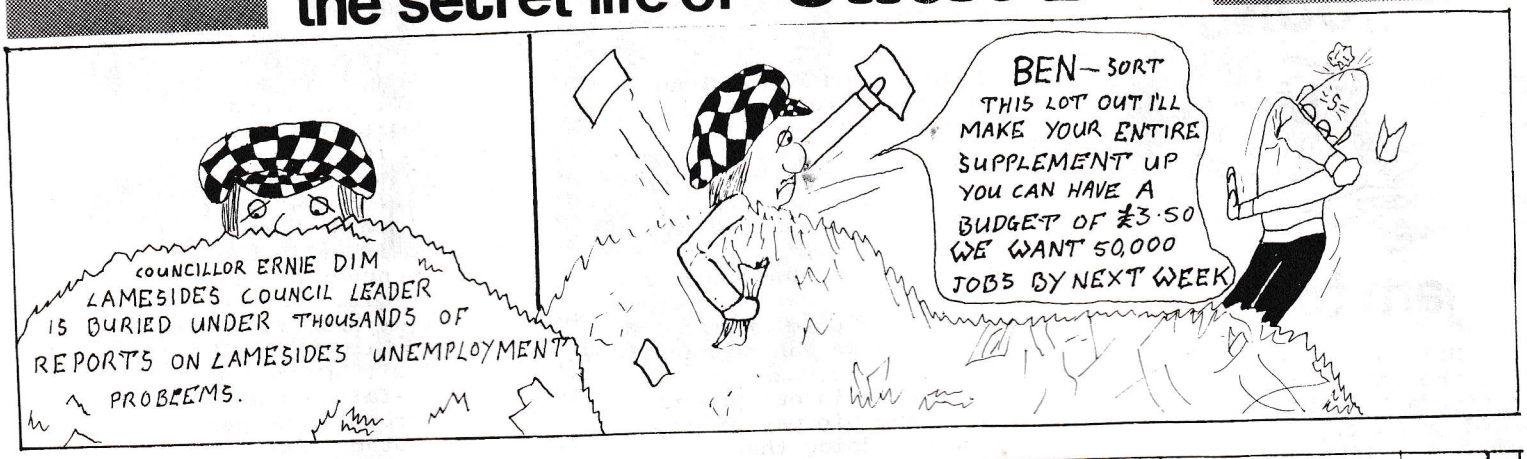
GRASS ROOTS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

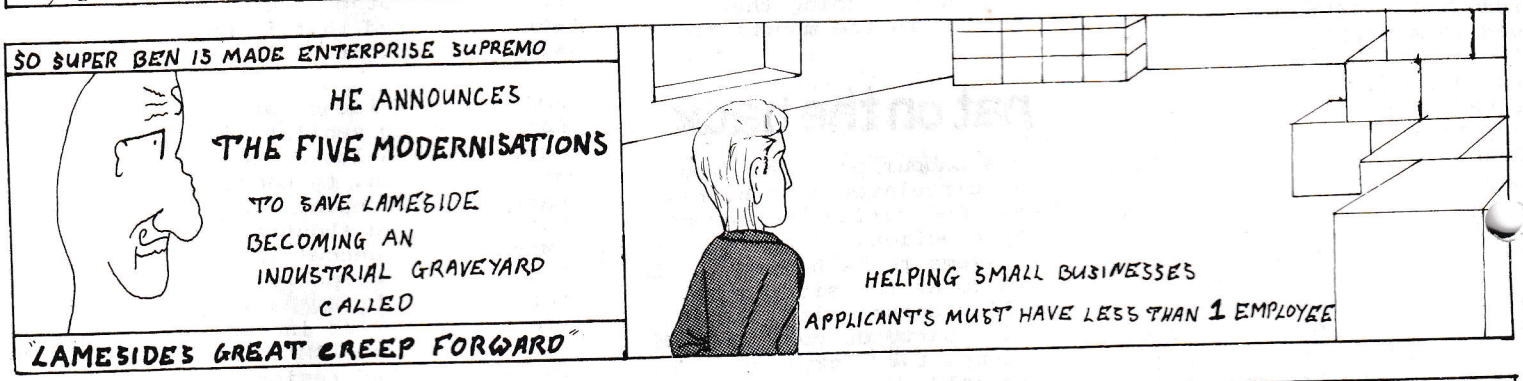
The bookshop for people who think for themselves



1 newton street
piccadilly, manchester
m11hw tel 061 236 3112

the secret life of Uncle Ben


COUNCILLOR ERNIE DIM LAMESIDES COUNCIL LEADER IS BURIED UNDER THOUSANDS OF REPORTS ON LAMESIDES UNEMPLOYMENT PROBEEMS.
BEN – SORT THIS LOT OUT I'LL MAKE YOUR ENTIRE SUPPLEMENT UP YOU CAN HAVE A BUDGET OF £3·50 WE WANT 50,000 JOBS BY NEXT WEEK


SO SUPER BEN IS MADE ENTERPRISE SUPREMO
HE ANNOUNCES
THE FIVE MODERNISATIONS
TO SAVE LAMESIDE BECOMING AN INDUSTRIAL GRAVEYARD CALLED
"LAMESIDES GREAT CREEP FORWARD"
HELPING SMALL BUSINESSES
APPLICANTS MUST HAVE LESS THAN 1 EMPLOYEE

JOB CREATION PROJECTS. SCHOOL LEAVERS ARE TO TURN EMPTY MILLS INTO MUSEUMS AND PAID TO WORK OLD MACHINERY WHILST YOUNGER BROTHERS PAY TO WATCH THEM WORK ON SCHOOL TRIPS ETC
MILL
CRIMINALS WILL NOT BE JAILED BUT USED TO BEAUTIFY INDUSTRIAL WASTELAND
UNCLE BEN IS NOW OFF TO MOSCOW TO VIEW THE OLYMPICS
DISAPPOINTED THAT HIS PLAN TO HOLD THEM IN LAMESIDE FAILED
SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER

WE WANT TO BRING OUT A BETTER PAPER FOR YOU TO READ. SO WE ARE GOING TO START OUR THIRD YEAR BY COMING OUT MORE REGULARLY AND MORE OFTEN: EYE IS GOING MONTHLY.

TO BE ABLE TO DO THIS WE ARE TAKING TIME OUT FROM THE SUMMER TO REORGANISE. BUT WE WILL ALSO BE SEEKING EXTRA HELP FROM OUR SUPPORTERS, BOTH IN CASH AND INFORMATION. THEREFORE THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE PAPER, No. 15, WILL NOT APPEAR UNTIL 20th SEPTEMBER.

(The real truth, if you must know, is we are all off on holiday, even though we can't afford it...see you soon!)

IN SEPT. EYE GOES MONTHLY

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES: 10th SEPTEMBER LAYOUT: 14th SEPTEMBER IN THE SHOPS: 20th SEPTEMBER